

CHAPTER 4
SECTION 5.1

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM

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I. CPT¹ PROCEDURE CODES

10021, 10022, 10040 - 11977, 11981 - 11983, 12001 - 15770, 15840 - 15845, 15851 - 19499, 97601, and 97602

II. DESCRIPTION

Integumentary system pertains to the skin, subcutaneous tissue and areolar tissue.

III. POLICY

A. Services and supplies required in the diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury involving the integumentary system are covered.

B. Topical Treatment of Skin Ulcers Caused by Venous Insufficiency. Topical application of Alpigraf by a physician for the treatment of skin ulcers caused by venous insufficiency is a covered benefit. Effective May 26, 1998.

C. Topical Treatment of Diabetic Foot Ulcers. Application of tissue cultured skin grafts for diabetic foot ulcers is a covered benefit. Effective May 8, 2000.

D. Topical Treatment of Diabetic Foot Ulcers. Application of Becaplermine Gel (Regranex) is a covered treatment of lower extremity diabetic neuropathic foot ulcers that extend into the subcutaneous tissue or beyond. Effective December 16, 1997.

IV. EXCLUSIONS

A. Removal of corns or calluses or trimming of toenails and other routine podiatry services, except those required as a result of diagnosed systemic medical disease affecting the lower limbs, such as severe diabetes.

B. Services performed for cosmetic purposes.

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C. Subcutaneous hormone (estradiol and/or testosterone) pellet implantation (CPT² procedure code 11980) is unproven. Estradiol pellets are not FDA approved for general use in humans.

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